

Reply To



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**REGION 10**  
1200 Sixth Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101

Attn Of: OWW-136

U.S. Senator Patty Murray  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510-4704

Dear Senator Murray:

Your correspondence to Ms. Stephanie N. Daigle, Associate Administrator of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations dated August 14, 2007 was forward to the Region 10 Environmental Protection Agency in Seattle, Washington for a response. Your letter requests that we address the issues outlined in Mr. Ken Reisinger's correspondence regarding his drinking water sources. It is your understanding that his drinking water was contaminated and he has no water source.

I have carefully reviewed all of the attached correspondence to your letter. We regret the frustration that Mr. Reisinger has had to experience in trying to resolve potential ground water contamination and his health concerns. Our goals are the same; it is important to this agency to protection our natural resources from contamination and to mitigate risks to human health.

Mr. Reisinger's issues appear to cut across several EPA programs in addition to several state and local programs. The letter from his daughter Ms. Mai-Lee Reisinger mentions the Pasco Sanitary landfill as a source of groundwater contamination, which comes under the authority of EPA's Superfund Cleanup Program. The letter assumes that a community member is using contaminated groundwater to water crops which could be ingested by people. The letter also expresses concern regarding the drinking water, which would be addressed under EPA's drinking water program or the Washington Department of Health's Drinking Water program if Mr. Reisinger is receiving drinking water from a public water system consisting of at least 15 connections or serving at least a population of 25 or more. However, if Mr. Reisinger is on a private well, he is not regulated by the EPA. However, he can have his water tested and I understand that monitoring wells have been installed to test the water in the area. I also understand that the Departments of Ecology and Health from the attached correspondence have offered the following assistance:

